

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/628,910

Examiner

Michael W Talbot

Applicant(s)

LOUTHAN ET AL

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to filed date of 28 July 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 28 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 2
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



**DERRIS H. BANKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700

DETAILED ACTION

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Chris James, Reg. No. 40660, on 24 March 2005.

Claim 17 was deleted in its entirety since it was an exact duplicate of claim 16 and claim 17 depended directly from claim 16.

Page 3, lines 10 and 11, the phrase "of Figure 4," has been deleted and the sentence should read --Figure 4A is an enlarged view illustrating a portion of the collet as indicated in Figure 4.--

Page 3, lines 14 and 15, the phrase "of Figure 4," has been deleted and the sentence should read --Figure 5A is an enlarged view illustrating a portion of the collet as indicated in Figure 5.--

Page 6, line 19, changed the character reference "cutting edge 84" to --cutting edge 81--.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-16 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Sponable '954 is the closest art of record.

Claims 1,8 and 12 are the independent claims.

Regarding claim 1, Sponable '954 shows in Figures 1-4 a fixture (Fig. 1), for supporting a rotatable member (26) having a plurality of radial portions (page 1, lines 108-110), having a

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collet member (12) extending in an axial direction and defining an aperture (Fig. 2) for partially receiving the rotatable member and a locator device (9,10) having a base connected to the collet and a plurality of flanges (24,25) extending from the base in an axial direction and arranged circumferentially to define an aperture (Fig. 3) for at least partially receiving the rotatable member. Sponable '954 lacks the plurality of flanges defining slots therebetween for receiving radial portions of the rotatable member such that the radial portions extend radially outward from the flanges. Sponable '954 further lacks a tool holder with a tool positioned against the radial portions of the rotatable member extending between the flanges of the locator device to machine the rotatable member to predetermined dimensions.

There is suggestion in the prior art to provide a tool holder with a tool positioned against the radial portions of the rotatable member extending between the flanges of the locator device. However there is no suggestion in the prior art to provide the plurality of flanges of Sponable '954 with defining slots therebetween for receiving radial portions of the rotatable member such that the radial portions extend radially outward from the flanges.

Regarding claim 8, Sponable '954 shows in Figures 1-4 a locator device (9,10) having a base and a plurality of flanges (24,25) extending from the base in an axial direction and arranged circumferentially to define an aperture (Fig. 3) for at least partially receiving the rotatable member. Sponable '954 lacks the plurality of flanges defining slots therebetween for receiving radial portions of the rotatable member such that the radial portions extend radially outward from the flanges.

There is no suggestion in the prior art to provide the plurality of flanges of Sponable '954 with defining slots therebetween for receiving radial portions of the rotatable member such that the radial portions extend radially outward from the flanges.

Regarding claim 12, Sponable '954 shows in Figures 1-4 a fixture (Fig. 1), for supporting a rotatable member (26) having a plurality of radial portions (page 1, lines 108-110), defining a base and a plurality of flanges (24,25) extending from the base in an axial direction and spaced about a circumference of the fixture to define a central aperture (Fig. 3) for at least partially receiving the rotatable member and surrounded by the flanges. Sponable '954 lacks the plurality of flanges defining slots between adjacent flanges and the rotatable member blades extending radially outward from the flanges through the slots defined between the flanges. Sponable '954 further lacks a tool to machine the blades to predetermined dimensions.

There is suggestion in the prior art to provide a tool to machine the blades. However there is no suggestion in the prior art to provide the plurality of flanges with slots between adjacent flanges and the rotatable member blades extending radially outward from the flanges through the slots defined between the flanges.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

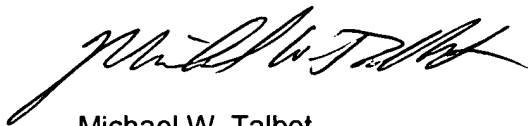
3. Any inquiry concerning the content of this communication from the examiner should be directed to Michael W. Talbot, whose telephone number is 571-272-4481. The examiner's office hours are typically 8:30am until 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. The examiner's supervisor, Mr. Derris Banks, may be reached at 571-272-4419.

In order to reduce pendency and avoid potential delays, Group 3720 is encouraging FAXing of responses to Office Actions directly into the Group at FAX number 703-872-9306. This practice may be used for filing papers not requiring a fee. It may also be used for filing

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papers, which require a fee, by applicants who authorize charges to a USPTO deposit account.

Please identify Examiner Michael W. Talbot of Art Unit 3722 at the top of your cover sheet.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Talbot", written in a cursive style.

Michael W. Talbot
Examiner
Art Unit 3722

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derris H. Banks", written in a cursive style.

DERRIS H. BANKS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER